



Report on COVID-19 deaths reported in Ireland

Report produced by Health Protection Surveillance Centre on 19/09/2022

This report includes data for COVID-19 cases notified on CIDR up to and including midnight on 17/09/2022 00:00:00 who have been notified as COVID-19 deaths

The [HPSC Epidemiology of COVID-19 Data Hub](#) provides a breakdown of notified deaths by county, age group and place of death. The Data Hub is updated each Wednesday.

Note: Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 19/09/2022 and are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously reported figures.

Table 1: Summary characteristics of COVID-19 deaths notified in Ireland with date of death from 21/08/2022 00:00:00 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

Characteristics	Number of deaths	
Total number of deaths	31	
Age	Mean age (Years)	81
	Median age (Years)	84

The number of deaths described in the above table relate only to COVID-19 cases who died within this time period and whose death has been reported to CIDR up to 19/09/2022. It does not include deaths of COVID-19 cases reported to CIDR in the last four weeks but with an earlier date of death. It also does not reflect the final number of deaths occurring for this period as the outcome may not yet have occurred, or is yet to be reported to CIDR.

Table 2: Summary characteristics of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage
Total number of deaths		7,895	
Sex	Female	3,666	46.4
	Male	4,229	53.6
	Unknown	0	0.0
	M:F ratio	1.15	
Case classification*	Possible	259	3.3
	Probable	148	1.9
	Confirmed	7,488	94.8
Healthcare Worker	Yes	23	0.3
	No	5,726	72.5
	Unknown	2,146	27.2
Underlying Conditions	Yes	6,036	76.5
	No	792	10.0
	Unknown	1,067	13.5
ICU Admission	Yes	909	11.5
	No	6,986	88.5

* [Case definition](#)

Table 3: Number and percentage of COVID-19 deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 in Ireland by age group, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

Characteristics		Number of Deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Age	Median Age (Years)	82		
	Mean Age (Years)	80		
Age group	<25 yrs	15	0.2	0.8
	25-34 yrs	32	0.4	4.9
	35-44 yrs	78	1.0	10.4
	45-54 yrs	201	2.5	32.1
	55-64 yrs	497	6.3	97.7
	65-74 yrs	1,302	16.5	348.6
	75-84 yrs	2,570	32.6	1307.9
	85+ yrs	3,195	40.5	4729.5
	Unknown	5	0.1	
	Total	7,895	100	165.8

Please note that due to the small number of persons who died due to COVID-19 in the age groups 0-25 years this information has been aggregated in order to protect patient confidentiality

Table 4: Number and percentage of COVID-19 deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 in Ireland by county of notification, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

County	Number of deaths	Percentage	Mortality rate per 100,000
Carlow	108	1.4	189.7
Cavan	161	2.0	211.4
Clare	192	2.4	161.6
Cork	709	9.0	130.6
Donegal	282	3.6	177.1
Dublin	2,595	32.9	192.6
Galway	282	3.6	109.3
Kerry	172	2.2	116.4
Kildare	428	5.4	192.4
Kilkenny	138	1.7	139.1
Laois	132	1.7	155.8
Leitrim	44	0.6	137.3
Limerick	357	4.5	183.2
Longford	54	0.7	132.1
Louth	292	3.7	226.6
Mayo	316	4.0	242.1
Meath	256	3.2	131.3
Monaghan	124	1.6	202.0
Offaly	118	1.5	151.4
Roscommon	113	1.4	175.1
Sligo	58	0.7	88.5
Tipperary	187	2.4	117.2
Waterford	184	2.3	158.4
Westmeath	135	1.7	152.1
Wexford	238	3.0	159.0
Wicklow	220	2.8	154.5

Table 5: Place of death for COVID-19 deaths in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Hospital	4,260	54.0
Residential Institution*	2,424	30.7
Hospice	99	1.3
Home	465	5.9
Other	147	1.9
Unknown	500	6.3

*Residential institution includes: community hospital/long stay unit, homeless facility, mental health facility and nursing homes.

Table 6: Summary of COVID-19 deaths linked to outbreaks in Ireland, cases with a date of notification from 01/03/2020 to 17/09/2022 00:00:00

		Number of Deaths	Percentage of total deaths	Percentage of deaths linked to outbreaks
Total number of deaths		7,895	100.0	
Deaths linked to outbreaks		4,275	54.1	100.0
Outbreaks by location	Nursing homes	2,600	32.9	60.8
	Hospital	1,071	13.6	25.1
	Community Hospitals/Long-stay units	204	2.6	4.8
	Residential institutions	123	1.6	2.9
	Other locations*	277	3.5	6.5

* Other locations include community outbreak, extended family, hotel, other, other healthcare service, private house, public house, religious/other ceremony, workplace

A death linked to an outbreak in a particular setting does not of itself indicate that transmission occurred within that setting. A case may be detected as part of an outbreak investigation, and associated with an outbreak, despite exposure and transmission having occurred elsewhere.

Table 7: Number of COVID-19 deaths in Ireland by month of death, cases with a date of notification from March 2020 to September 2022

Year	Month	Number of deaths *
2020	March	129
2020	April	1,158
2020	May	363
2020	June	67
2020	July	17
2020	August	7
2020	September	39
2020	October	132
2020	November	190
2020	December	193
2021	January	1,425
2021	February	892
2021	March	258
2021	April	104
2021	May	44
2021	June	22
2021	July	23
2021	August	94
2021	September	193
2021	October	240
2021	November	275
2021	December	263
2022	January	321
2022	February	227
2022	March	335
2022	April	358
2022	May	125
2022	June	112
2022	July	183
2022	August	85
2022	September	10

Number of deaths for September 2022 is incomplete.

* Date of death reported for 7,884 of the deaths.

Acknowledgments

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Technical Notes

1. Data Source

Data are based on statutory notifications and were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 09:31 on 19/09/2022. Data are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously published figures.

2. Population Data

Population data were taken from Census 2016. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis of deaths for the entire pandemic: 0-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, 45-54 years, 55-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years. Data were aggregated into the following age groups for the analysis of deaths with date of death in the past 7 days: 0-64 years, 65-74 years, 75-84 years and ≥ 85 years.

3. Definition of a COVID-19 death used by HPSC

For surveillance purposes, COVID-19 deaths include deaths in all possible, probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases (as per the COVID-19 case definition) and all should be notified, unless there is a clear alternative cause of death that cannot be related to COVID-19 infection (e.g. trauma). There should be no period of complete recovery* from COVID-19 between the illness and death. All COVID-19 deaths are notified regardless of the setting, including home, community and hospital settings. HPSC reports all deaths among these COVID-19 cases as outlined above and does not just confine the death reporting to those who die within 28 days of a positive test. This is in line with how COVID-19 cases are reported by the majority of European countries and follows WHO guidance for COVID-19 death surveillance.

*Please note that discharge from ICU or hospital is not in itself evidence of recovery. To determine if the case had recovered, it should be based on clinical assessment or alternatively a period of ≥ 3 months must have elapsed since the case was initially diagnosed with COVID-19 and the case must have no evidence of COVID-19 infection prior to death as assessed by a clinician.

Deaths not reported as COVID-19 deaths:

1. Persons with COVID-19 may die directly due to accidents. Such deaths are not due to COVID-19 and should not be certified as such. This decision not to certify as COVID-19 death will be based on clinical judgement.
2. In some instances, a death due to COVID-19 may not be attributed to another disease (e.g. cancer) and would be counted as a COVID-19 death independently of pre-existing conditions that are suspected of triggering a severe course of COVID-19.

More resources:

[COVID-19 interim case definition](#)

[Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Ireland Frequently Asked Questions](#)